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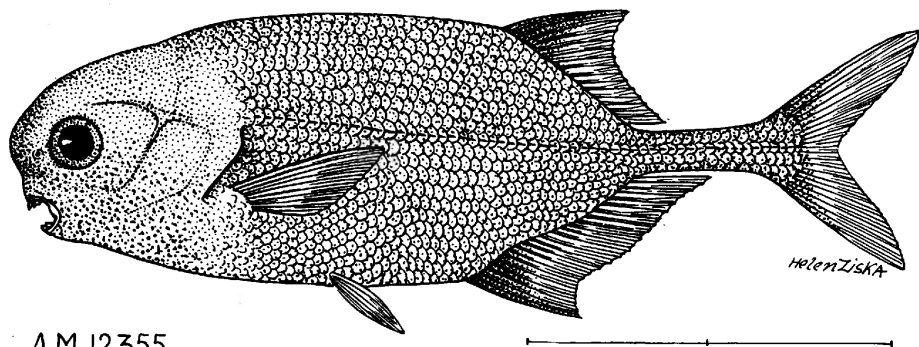
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59.7 (67.5)

MORE NEW FISHES FROM THE KASAI DISTRICT OF THE BELGIAN CONGO

BY J. T. NICHOLS AND F. R. LAMONTE

A number of small fishes collected in 1932 by Callewaert, at Luluabourg in the Kasai District of the Belgian Congo, were overlooked when the remainder of his collection made at that time was studied and reported on.¹ Their examination, just completed, adds 20 forms to the 42 from the locality previously enumerated in The American Museum of Natural History's collections: namely, 5 mormyrids, 4 characins, 2 cyprinids of which 1 is a *Barbus*, 5 catfishes, 3 cichlids, 1 *Anabas*. Our complete



A.M. 12355

Fig. 1. *Marcusenius maculipinnis*, type.

collections from the locality now number 62 species: in percentages, 21 mormyrids, 14½ characins, 35 catfishes, 5 *Barbus*, 6½ cichlids, and 18 otherwise distributed; characins, catfishes and cichlids being somewhat closer to figures for the Congo than were those reported for the incomplete Luluabourg collections in 1933.

The following new species are included: *Marcusenius maculipinnis*, *Heterobranchus platycephalus*, *Euchilichthys boulengeri*, and *Steatocranus elongatus*.

***Marcusenius maculipinnis*, new species**

SPECIFIC CHARACTERS.—Anal originating in advance of dorsal. Teeth 7½; 12 or 14 scales around caudal peduncle; lateral line, 55 to 66. Depth of body, 3 to 3.3 times in standard length; caudal peduncle 3 to 3.5 times as long as deep. Dorsal 17

¹Nichols and LaMonte, 1933, Amer. Mus. Novitates, No. 656.

or 18; anal 24 to 25. Caudal peduncle 1.1 to 1.3 in length of head. Front of dorsal and anal and base of caudal, each with a vague, blackish blotch.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Number 12355, American Museum of Natural History; from Luluabourg, Kasai District, Belgian Congo; August 7, 1932; collected by Father R. Callewaert.

Length to base of caudal, 54 mm.; depth in this length, 3; head, 3.5. Eye in head, 4; snout, 6; interorbital, 3.7; width of mouth, 6; greatest width of body, 2.2; length of peduncle, 1.3; its depth, 5; pectoral, 1.2; ventral, 2.3; longest dorsal ray, 2; longest anal ray, 2; caudal lobe, 1.5.

Dorsal rays, 17; anal, 24; scales, 55, about 12 or 14 around caudal peduncle.

Profile rounded with a blunt snout shorter than eye, projecting appreciably beyond the small mouth, the corners of which lie below the front of the eye. Dorsal origin slightly before the middle of the anal base, equidistant from pectoral origin and caudal base. Front of dorsal and anal moderately elevated.

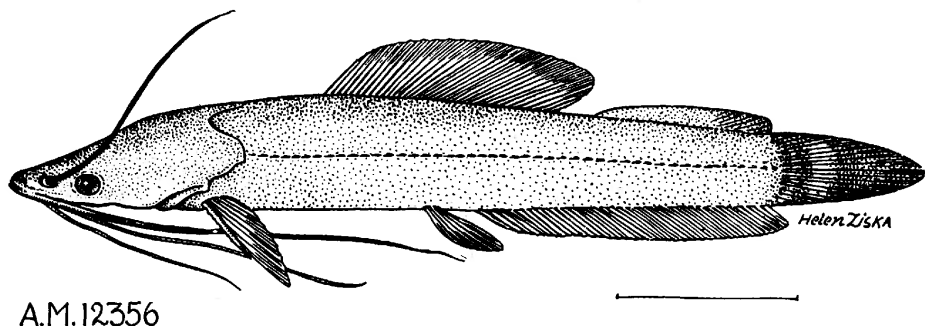


Fig. 2. *Heterobranchus platycephalus*, type.

Color dusky purplish, broken into small dark spots on the lower surface of head and belly, not appreciably paler below than above. Ill-defined dark blotches on the bases of dorsal and anal in front and across the base of the caudal.

Three other specimens, 53 to 57 mm. in standard length, were taken from the 8th to the 10th of August.

This species resembles *M. adpersus* of the Lower Congo but has fewer fin rays and more scales. It also suggests *fasciiceps* Boulenger from Leopoldville, but has a relatively larger eye and shorter snout and a more uniformly dusky color.

***Heterobranchus platycephalus*, new species**

SPECIFIC CHARACTERS.—Adipose fin 1.4 in base of rayed dorsal, separated from it by a distance about equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of dorsal base; pectoral $\frac{1}{2}$ length of head. Head broad and much depressed, its depth 2.6 and its breadth 1.4 in its length, versus 2.4 and 1.6 in an *H. longifilis* of about the same size. Dorsal rays 36; about 15 gill rakers (or less) on anterior arch.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Number 12356, American Museum of Natural History; a single specimen from Luluabourg, Kasai District, Belgian Congo; August 10, 1932; collected by Father R. Callewaert.

Length to base of caudal, 107 mm.; depth in this length, 6.7; head (to end of occipital process), 3.2. Eye in head, 9; snout, 3; interorbital, 2.3; width of mouth, 2.2; depth of peduncle, 3.5; pectoral spine, 3.7; pectoral 2; ventral, 2.7; longest dorsal ray, 2.5; longest anal ray, 4; caudal, 1.7; maxillary barbel, $0.5\frac{1}{2}$. Eye in interorbital, 4.

Dorsal rays, 36; anal, 49.

Head broad and depressed, especially the snout. Peduncular region well compressed. Snout projecting appreciably beyond the curved, inferior mouth. Eye more superolateral than in *longifilis*; the bony top of the head conspicuously rough striate. Maxillary barbel reaching to or beyond the tip of the ventral; nasal barbel beyond the tip of the occipital process; inner mandibular to the pectoral base, and the outer mandibular well beyond its tip. The pectoral spine is distinctly serrate on the outer,

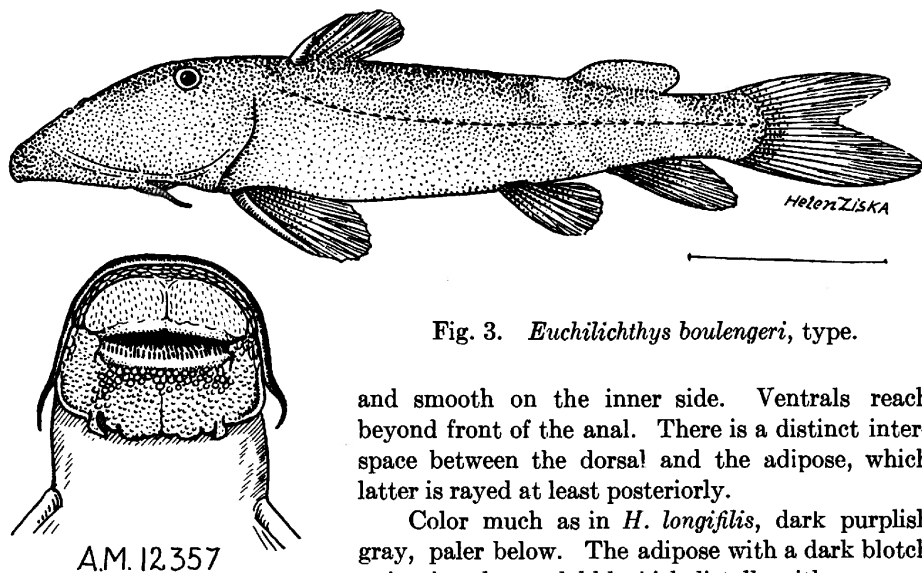


Fig. 3. *Euchilichthys boulengeri*, type.

and smooth on the inner side. Ventrals reach beyond front of the anal. There is a distinct interspace between the dorsal and the adipose, which latter is rayed at least posteriorly.

Color much as in *H. longifilis*, dark purplish gray, paler below. The adipose with a dark blotch at its tip; the caudal blackish distally with a narrow pale margin and broad, sub-basal, pale crossband. The anal lobe more or less dusky with a pale edge. Nasal and maxillary barbels blackish; the others paler.

***Euchilichthys boulengeri*, new species**

SPECIFIC CHARACTERS.—Depth of body about 5.5 to 6 in length. Eye 8 or 9 times in length of head; 2 or 3 times in interocular width. Base of adipose fin one-half its distance from dorsal. Differs from *royauxi* in larger snout and disc; narrower interorbital (2 or more in snout), shorter dorsal spine (3.2 to 3.6 in head), and color. The pale bands on the caudal region are more distinct, usually two quite definite ones, and the spots on the body are less pronounced or absent.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Number 12357, American Museum of Natural History; collected at Luluabourg, Kasai District, Belgian Congo; August 9, 1932; by Father R. Callewaert.

Length to base of caudal, 95 mm.; depth in this length, 5.7; head, 3. Eye in head, 8.5; snout, 1.5; interorbital, 3; maxillary barbel, 5 or 6; width of head and of

disc, 1.3; depth of head, 2.2; depth of peduncle, 4; its length, 3.7; pectoral spine, 2.3; dorsal spine, 3.6; ventral fin, 2.8; longest anal ray, 2.4; height of adipose, 8; lower caudal lobe (the longer), 1.4.

Dorsal, I, 7; anal, 9.

Body depressed before the ventrals; peduncle compressed; lower surfaces flat; head and snout very broad and flat; interorbital appreciably concave; the disc very wide and its margin extending backward about to under the hind margin of the eye, as far as does the small lateral barbel. Teeth on the lower jaw somewhat coarser than is usual in *E. royauxi*, in about 25 rows from side to side. Dorsal origin about equidistant from end of snout and anal origin; ventral origin nearer that of adipose than dorsal axil; pectorals extending back about halfway to ventral origin; ventrals to anal origin; anal to caudal base. Pectoral and dorsal spines smooth in front, the pectoral appreciably serrate and the dorsal slightly roughened behind. Skin of body villous; lower side of head with less crowded small papillae.

Color rather uniform slaty, the lower surfaces paler, pinkish. A broken pale band diagonally downward and backward from near the front of the adipose; a second more complete band from behind the adipose, and a third indistinct one on the base of the caudal. Fins dark gray, more or less broadly or distinctly margined with paler. Two other specimens are more or less spotted with dark on a paler ground, but less so than *royauxi*.

The following table gives certain measurements of our four specimens of *Euchilichthys boulengeri*, compared with an *E. royauxi*, from Faradje, Belgian Congo.

| | <i>E. boulengeri</i> | | | | <i>E. royauxi</i> |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| | Type | | | | |
| Standard length..... | 97 mm. | 95 mm. | 89 mm. | 77 mm. | 94 mm. |
| Depth in length..... | 6..... | 5.7..... | 5.4..... | 6..... | 5.7 |
| Eye in interorbital..... | 2.7..... | 2.7½..... | 2.8..... | 2.5..... | 3 |
| Snout in head..... | 1.5..... | 1.5..... | 1.5..... | 1.4..... | 1.5 |
| Interorbital in head..... | 3..... | 3..... | 3.1..... | 3.4..... | 2.5 |
| Width of disc..... | 1.3..... | 1.3..... | 1.4..... | 1.4..... | 1.5 |
| Length of disc..... | 1.4..... | 1.6..... | 1.6..... | 1.5..... | 1.6 |
| Dorsal spine..... | 3.5..... | 3.6..... | 3.4..... | 3.2..... | 2.4 |
| Head in length..... | 3..... | 3..... | 2.8..... | 2.7..... | 3.2 |

***Steatocranus elongatus*, new species**

SPECIFIC CHARACTERS.—Depth, 4.3 to 4.4 in standard length. Scales much reduced in size above almost the entire length of the upper lateral line so that there are five or more rows (versus 2½ in *S. gibbiceps*) between its tenth scale and the dorsal.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Number 12358, American Museum of Natural History; collected August 11, 1932; at Luluabourg; by Father R. Callewaert.

Length to base of caudal, 49 mm.; depth in this length, 4.4; head, 3.5; eye in head, 4; snout, 2.6; interorbital, 4; maxillary, 3; depth of head (not counting crest),

1.5; its width, 2; depth of peduncle, 2.8; its length (from anal axil), 1.9; pectoral 1.4; ventral, 1.2; last dorsal spine, 2.5; longest dorsal ray (filamentous), 1; third anal spine, 2.5; longest anal ray, 1.4; caudal, 1.3.

Dorsal, XX, 8; anal, III, 7; scales, 32 (lateral lines 20+10); 13 or 14 around peduncle.

Head only moderately compressed; lower jaw distinctly included, maxillary not quite reaching to below front of eye; a distinct crest of loose skin on the interorbital. Dorsal origin about over that of the pectoral and slightly before that of ventral; ventral reaching back to or little beyond the tip of the pectoral, somewhat more than halfway to the anal origin; dorsal filament to past the middle of the caudal; caudal rounded, subtruncate. Head, nape, breast, and middle of belly without scales. Scales between most of lateral line (anteriorly) and dorsal much reduced in size.

Color purplish gray, the fins, with the exception of the pectorals, somewhat darker.

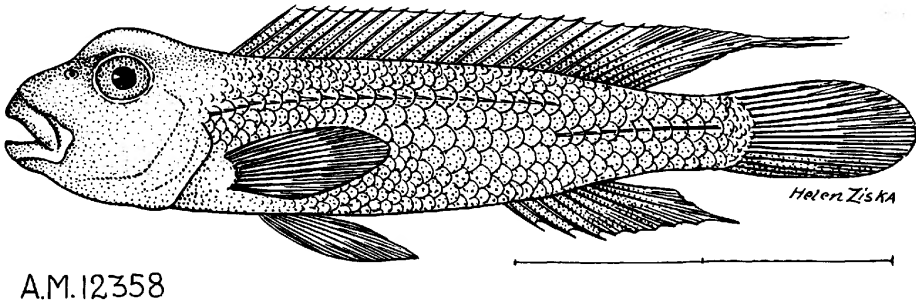


Fig. 4. *Steatocranus elongatus*, type.

Another specimen from Luluabourg, collected on the 29th of August, measures 51 mm. in standard length. In this the ventrals are about the same length as the pectorals and extend a little more than halfway to the anal origin. The depth is a little greater, nuchal crest only slightly indicated, color (in preservative) more yellowish; dorsal, XX, 8; anal, III, 7; scales, 32.

Compared with two specimens of *gibbiceps*, 45 and 54 mm. standard length. These are obviously different, deeper, more compressed with steeper profiles, maxillary extending to under front of eye, etc.

***Leptolamprologus monogramma* Pellegrin**

There are seven specimens sent by Father Callewaert from Luluabourg of this interesting fish recently (1927, Rev. Zool. Afr., XV, p. 55) described by Pellegrin. A female, 58 mm. standard length, with large eggs (about $\frac{2}{3}$ diameter of eye), has the following color: brownish with a few faint markings above, paler below. A dark stripe from the maxillary through the lower border of the eye to the edge of the preopercle;

another from the corner of the mouth backward, not quite parallel with the first; upper part of opercle more or less dusky. Dorsal and caudal dusky, a submarginal whitish stripe on the dorsal continued backward across the upper part of the caudal; other fins grayish.

In specimens of 60 and 62 mm., in the following table, dorsal and caudal lack the white stripe and caudal membranes are spotted with dusky. The others all agree in color with the one described.

| Standard Length | Depth | Head | Eye in Head | D. | A. | Scales |
|-----------------|-------|------|-------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 40 mm. | 6.5 | 3.4 | 4 | XX, 9 | IV, 8 | 36 |
| 58 mm. | 6 | 3.7 | 4 | XX, 9 | IV, 9 | 35 |
| 60 mm. | 6.5 | 3.8 | 4 | XX, 10 | IV, 10 | 37 |
| 62 mm. | 5.8 | 3.4 | 4.4 | XX, 10 | IV, 9 | 35 |
| 64 mm. | 6.5 | 3.6 | 4.4 | XX, 9 | IV, 9 | 36 |
| 68 mm. | 6 | 3.7 | 4.6 | XX, 10 | IV, 9 | 36 |
| 68 mm. | 6.6 | 3.7 | 4.6 | XX, 11 | IV, 10 | 35 |